

Health Sciences Library Partners with Community Colleges for Needs Assessment and Interactive Tutorial in Geriatric Education

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Objectives:

- Build collaborative relationships between the Health Sciences Library, UNC Institute on Aging, and local community colleges
- Perform a health information and geriatric education needs assessment of nursing students in two community colleges
- Create a plan of action for a future training module incorporating NLM resources such as MedlinePlus and NIH Senior Health and other geriatric clinical resources.



Brenda Linares (HSL) and Amy Gustavson (CCCC).



Students in the CCCC library

Participants:

Durham Technical Community College and Central Carolina Community College (CCCC). Both community colleges have Nursing programs and Occupational Therapy programs with an emphasis on geriatric education.

CCCC is located in Sanford, Lee County, in a rural area (26% Hispanic and 28% Black or African American).

Durham Technical Community College is located in Durham County and is a more urban setting (14% Hispanic and 41% Black or African American) (US Census, 2010).

Methods

For Phase 1 of the project, a health sciences librarian created two separate surveys, one for faculty and one for students. Both surveys were distributed in print and electronic format with consent forms. A total of **165** student surveys and **16** faculty surveys were received and completed.

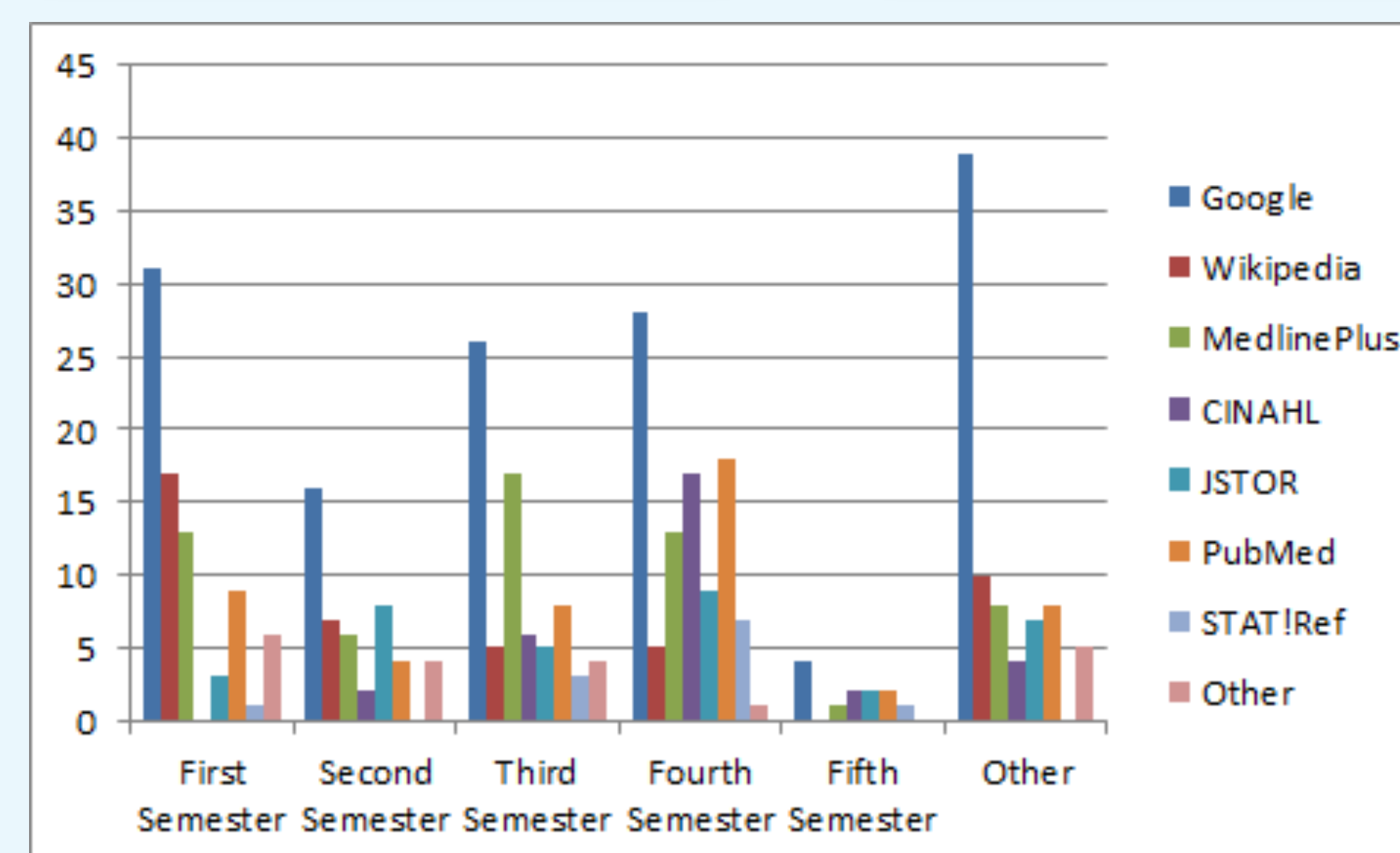


Figure 1: Online resources used by students

Results

Students use various online resources for their classes. Figure 1 shows that the majority of students use Google, MedlinePlus, PubMed, and Wikipedia as their top five online resources. The use of Wikipedia goes down the longer they are in school (17 students use it their first semester, while only 5 use it on their 4th and 5th semester). Therefore, those who have been in school longer use more scholarly databases.

Interest in different types of learning activities changes depending on which semester they are in. Figure 2 shows that third semester students (28) are more interested in case studies, while first semester students (17) are interested in tutorials.

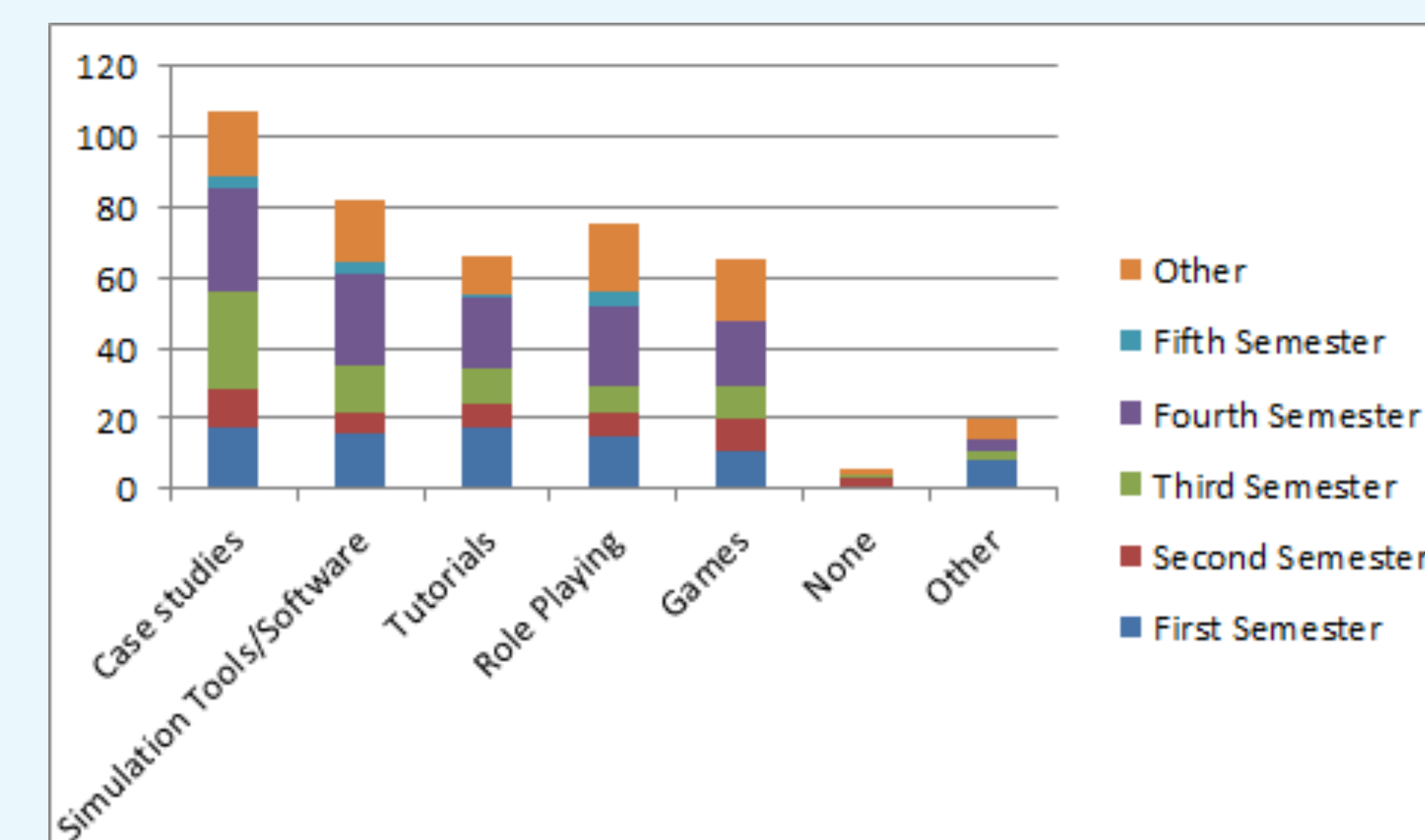


Figure 2: Types of learning activities liked by students

Figure 3 shows that the majority of the faculty who teach in the Assistant Degree Nursing Program and Practical Nursing teach with case studies (14 responses) and simulation tools/software (10).

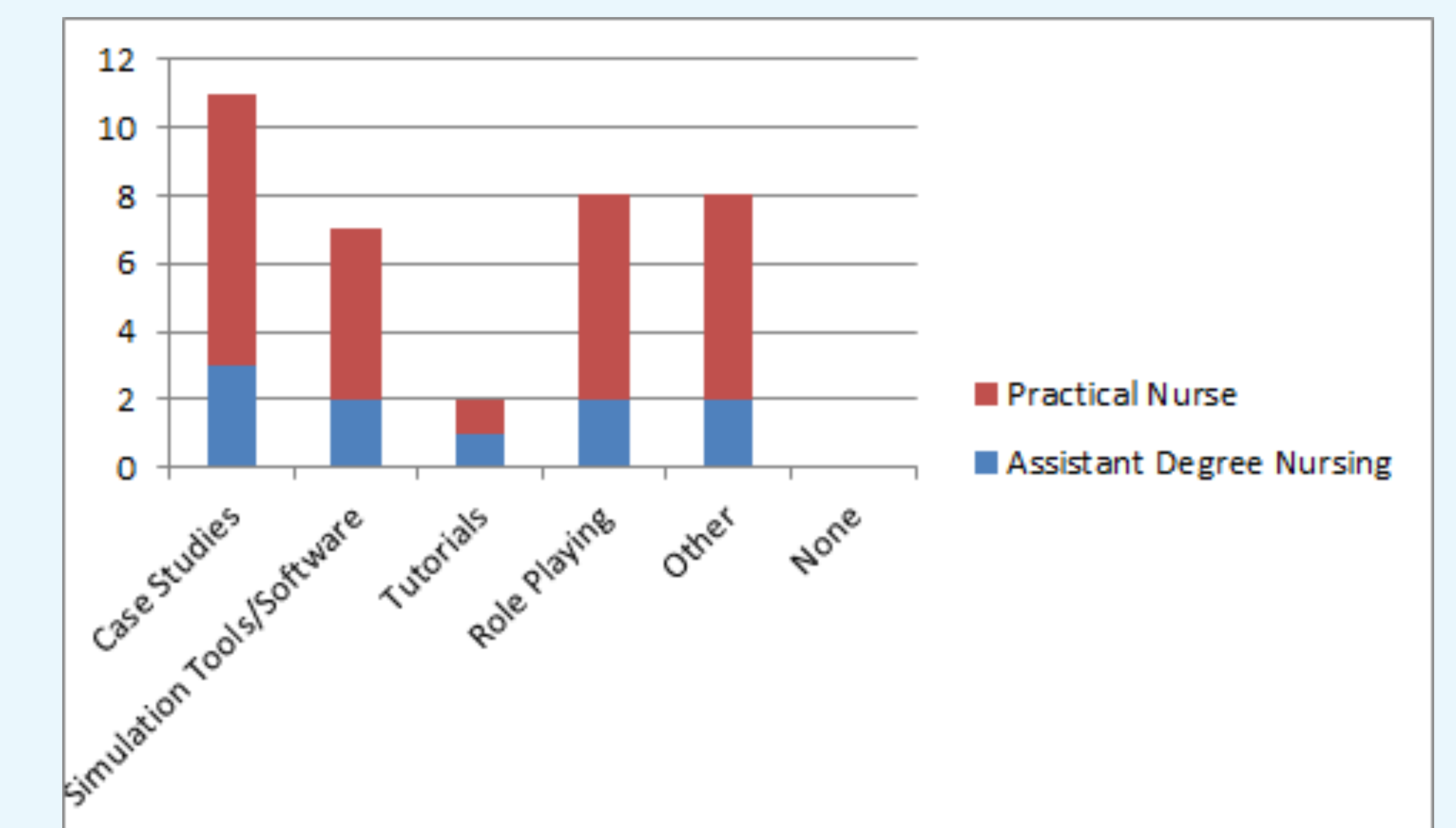


Figure 3: Teaching activities used by faculty

Other figures and comments:

- 86% of students stated that they learn better with hands-on activities
- 94% access resource information online with their personal computer
- 60% access resource information online with their phone

Students comments included:

"We want more computer simulation tools..."
"...tutorials"
"...promote online resources"
"role playing, hands on and interactive"

Next Steps

After analyzing the survey results and our conversations with the community colleges, we applied for another NLM outreach award for phase two of this project. Phase two will consist of creating interactive tutorials/modules with case studies.